



Iowa Department of Human Services

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Director

April 9, 2014

Date Complaint Received: 12/31/13
Complaint Received By: Chad Reckling, SW II
Provider Name and Location: Amanda Miller 310 Busch Street Muscatine IA 52761
Complaint: It was reported to the department that on 12/30/13 a daycare parent asked how their child was eating. For lunch the child was fed saltine crackers and goldfish crackers, chocolate chips and fruit snacks. Before when the parent would ask it would be a chicken nugget and goldfish crackers for lunch. The child came home with 2 bruises around Christmas time. The parent is not sure how happened, the parent thinks that it may have happened at the provider's home. Rule basis: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• IAC 110.5(1) Conditions in the home are safe, sanitary, and free of hazards.• IAC 110.5(7) Meals• IAC 110.5(7) Regular meals, midmorning snacks and mid-afternoon snacks are well balanced, nourishing, and appropriate amounts as defined by the USDA Child and Adult Care Food Program.• 110.5(6) Discipline• 110.5(6)a Corporal punishment including spanking, shaking and slapping is not used.• 110.5(6)b No punishment is used which is humiliating or frightening, or causes pain or discomfort to the child.• 110.5(6)c No punishment is administered because of a child's illness, or progress or lack of progress in toilet training.• 110.5(6)c No punishment or threat of punishment is associated with food or rest.• 110.5(6)d No child is subjected to verbal abuse, threats, or derogatory remarks about the child or the child's family.• 110.5(6)e Discipline is designed to help the child develop self-control, self-esteem, and respect for the rights of others.
Findings: 1/3/14 This worker made contact with the provider and explained allegations that were presented before the department. There were no daycare children present during today's visit to the home. Amanda indicated that this child was sick when the parents brought this child to her home for care. The parents were not sure why the child was vomiting. The parents of the child reported that they could not get the child to eat at home or sleep. Amanda reported that the first three times the parent brought the child the child was sick with projectile vomiting. The provider shared that the only time they would exclude daycare children from her care would be if the child was running a fever. These parents would bring this child Hardee's eggs, hash browns, sausage and gravy with the child in the morning. The provider stated that they did not request the parents to bring this food. The parents wanted to give her milk that was watered down during this time that the child was sick. Amanda stated that she gave the child water, no milk and soft foods like crackers because the child was vomiting. Amanda did state that one day she gave the child some chocolate chip cookies because she was eating them and was sharing with the child. She reported that she no longer cares for this child because the parent's sister does child care and that the child's last day with her was on 12/30/13. Amanda stated that she kept a food journal for the child as to what the child ate so the parents could bring it to the doctor. Amanda reported that the child was vomiting for three days and that she was able to get the child to stop vomiting at daycare however the parents

reported that the child was still vomiting at home. Amanda stated that the child as able to take naps at daycare and she was able to get the child to eventually eat hot dogs, chicken nuggets, cereal and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. This worker gave Amanda the guide to acceptable food and amounts as defined by the Adult and Child Care Food Program.

Amanda stated that the child did fall once in her daycare home and they recorded it on an injury report form and had the parent sign it. This worker verified this by looking at the injury report form that was completed. The incident happened on 12/12/13 where the child fell by the front door and hit their head. Amanda did not recall any other incident of falling or injury to the child while at her daycare. Amanda indicated that she will use re-direction and timeouts for discipline for her daycare children.

Amanda provided this worker with a few names of daycare parents that utilize her for daycare services.

This worker did not conduct a compliance visit of the home today as a full compliance check was completed on 10/8/13 with a follow up compliance visit on 12/4/13. There are a few items of non-compliance remaining in the home. Please refer to letter dated 12/9/13 for further information.

1/6/14 Left message for daycare parent to call this worker for information concerning the provider.

1/6/14 Spoke with daycare parent about Amanda. This worker asked parent if they have had any concerns with what is fed to their children at Amanda's or if they have talked about this. The parent stated that they have talked with Amanda about food that their children get there and everything sounds appropriate. This worker had the daycare parent give examples of foods that they would be served there. The parent stated that sandwiches and chips would be given for lunch and that the child would be given whatever the family is having for supper. This worker also asked if the parent had any concerns with how their child has been disciplined at Amanda's and if they had any concerns with any unexplained injuries or if any injuries have occurred with their children that they have concerns about. The parent reports that they have not had any concerns with either of these issues.

1/6/14 Spoke with another daycare parent who utilizes Amanda for childcare. They report that they do not have any concerns with the meals and snacks that are served by Amanda. They stated that Amanda will serve sandwiches, hot dogs, fruits and vegetables. She will also get the children some ice cream on occasion when they are good for her. This daycare parent did not have any concerns about unexplained injuries or bruises for their child. They observed her child being disciplined by Amanda which consisted of her placing the child on the couch to sit in a timeout. The parent stated that the child will either sit on the couch or in the corner for timeouts. This parent has not had observed any bruising or injuries on the child as a result of Amanda caring for their child.

This worker **did not find a preponderance of evidence** that the allegations before the department are true.

Resolution: Amanda will continue to adhere to all guidelines pertaining to food served in her daycare home and her current disciplinary practices. All non-compliance items still remaining in the home shall be completed by **1/10/14**. A follow up visit shall be conducted to insure that all non-compliance items have been addressed.

If you have any questions regarding this matter feel free to contact me at (319) 208-5521 or creckli@dhs.state.ia.us.

Sincerely,

Chad Reckling, Social Worker II
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Burlington IA 52601